TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1208 - HB 1452

February 27, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes immunity from civil action when a victim of crime gives testimony at the offender's parole hearing unless testimony is intentionally false or defamatory. Establishes procedures if the offender brings suit against the victim. Requires the court to recommend disciplinary action against the offender to the appropriate warden, if the suit was without merit and was for the purpose of intimidating or abusing the victim. Such disciplinary action may include the loss of sentence reduction credits and prohibition from filing any future similar actions.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumptions:

- The number of lawsuits filed by offenders against victims who testify at their parole hearings is estimated to be nominal and will not have a significant fiscal impact.
- Any impact on the state trial courts can be accommodated within existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director

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